

Perceptions: Old vs. New

1	Research evidence does not exist demonstrating that writing with symbols is a necessary developmental first step supporting the development of writing skills for students with significant disabilities.	Old / New
2	Reading skills occur before writing skills.	Old / New
3	Symbol writing (pictographic writing systems) leads to conventional writing.	Old / New
4	Typically developing children write hundreds, if not thousands of times before becoming conventional writers.	Old / New
5	Spoken communication isn't needed during writing	Old / New
6	Exposure to the alphabet through meaningful writing opportunities facilitates the acquisition of early literacy skills.	Old / New
7	Students should show prerequisite literacy skills such as letter formation, phonemic or phonological awareness, or sound symbol connections.	Old / New
8	For students with significant disabilities, writing skills will be acquired if we teach them in simple, isolated tasks.	Old / New
9	Through repeated meaningful writing opportunities, writing skills may be observed in students with significant disabilities before reading skills.	Old / New
10	Early writing should be conventional.	Old / New
11	Research has shown that students with significant disabilities can make positive gains in writing when provided with consistent, strategy-based instruction.	Old / New
12	Work on fine motor skills leads to conventional writing skills.	Old / New
13	Many students with disabilities have lifelong fine motor constraints that inhibit the ability to produce legible text with ease. Fine motor activities (e.g. copying and tracing) do not enable students to learn that writing is a form of communication.	Old / New
14	The cognitive, in-the-head process of learning to read and write is the same for all individuals	Old / New
15	Older students cannot acquire writing skills.	Old / New
16	Beginning readers frequently read aloud during sustained silent reading because they have not yet developed their inner voice.	Old / New
17	Adults with significant disabilities who are introduced to systematic writing instruction are developing conventional writing skills.	Old / New
18	Conventional writing is not possible.	Old / New